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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masao MURADE

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 09/667,233

Examiner: T. Ton

Filed: September 22, 2000

Docket No.: 106377

For: ELECTRO-OPTICAL DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE  
SAME

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 17, 2003 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects the combination of species (Ib) and (Ic) with traverse. At least claims 5-7 and 11 read on the elected species. At least claims 1 and 8-10 are generic to all species in claims 1-12.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-12 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present

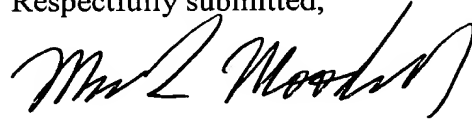
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application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MRW/cfr

Date: July 16, 2003

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